

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/FSE:SWBOSWORTH:LS

APPROVED BY EB THOMAS O. ENDERS

EB - JLKATZ

EUR/NE - ANNE PINKNEY

S/S - JPMOFFAT

----- 057085

R 091526Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 222345

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG,NO

SUBJECT: NORWAY AND THE IEP

1. IN CONVERSATION ON OCTOBER 5, NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR SOMMERFELT ASKED ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS INFORMALLY ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME SORT OF ASSOCIATE IEP STATUS FOR NORWAY IN THE EVENT THAT NORWEGIANS DECIDE NOT TO COME IN AS FULL MEMBERS. ENDERS REPLIED THAT, IF NORWAY IS UNABLE TO TAKE POSITIVE DECISION AT THIS TIME, WE WOULD HOPE THAT GON COULD AVOID A NEGATIVE DECISION, THUS LEAVING OPEN NORWAY'S POSSIBLE ENTRY AT LATER DATE.

2. ENDERS STATED WE DID NOT BELIEVE FORMAL ASSOCIATE STATUS FOR NORWAY WOULD BE APPROPRIATE SINCE IT COULD HAVE AN NRAVELING EFFECT ON THE OVERALL INTEGRITY OF THE AGREEMENT- RATHER, WE WOULD HOPE THAT IF NORWAY COULD NOT ENTER IEP,

GON COULD UNILATERALLY INDICATE THAT NORWAY WOULD NONETHE- LESS MAINTAIN A "SPECIAL SUPPORTIVE RELATIONSHIP" VIS-A-VIS THE IEP GROUP. FOR EXAMPLE, NORWAY COULD STATE THAT WHILE IT WAS UNABLE TO BIND ITSELF POLITICALLY TO IEP AT THIS
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TIME, IT WOULD NONETHELESS STAND PREPARED TO MAKE OIL

AVAILABLE TO THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP IN THE EVENT OF A SUPPLY EMERGENCY. ENDERS NOTED THAT IN ORDER FOR THIS COMMITMENT TO BE MEANINGFUL, THE AMOUNT OF OIL THAT NORWAY WOULD COMMIT ITSELF TO MAKE AVAILABLE SHOULD BE GREATER THAN

THE LIMITED SHARING OBLIGATION WHICH NORWAY WOULD INCUR AS AN IEP MEMBER.

3. YOU SHOULD DRAW ON THE ABOVE IN RESPONSE TO ANY INFORMAL INQUIRIES BY GON IN OSLO REGARDING POSSIBLE ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP. INGERSOLL

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